

Clean Boats, Clean Waters Pilot Program in Illinois and Indiana



Cathy McGlynn, Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership

Aquatic Invasive Species

Transported inadvertently

High economic and ecological costs



Some Invaders of Special Concern



Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia

Quagga Mussel



Beginnings

- Start up funds
- No re-inventing the wheel
- Emphasis on grassroots and slow expansion



Start Up Funds

GLRI funds for 2010-2012

- Quarter time coordinator for two years
- Two seasonal hourlies willing to work weekends
- Travel, equipment, and supplies
- Under \$20,000 per year



No Re-inventing the Wheel

Wisconsin and Michigan already have successful, established programs

- Logo
- Manual
- Training materials



No Re-inventing the Wheel

- Focus on providing Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers outreach materials to the public
- Borrow techniques for watercraft inspection from MI and WI



Emphasis on Grassroots

- Two assistant coordinators or hourlies
- One volunteer
- Media coverage through Sea Grant, TribLocal, and Lake County Health Department (IL)



Slow Expansion: Our First Season

Lake County, IL: 10 sites with high to moderate frequency of use

Lake County, IN: 4 sites with mostly unknown frequency of use



Outreach



- Boat launches
- One – two minute speech and educational materials
- Additional information upon request



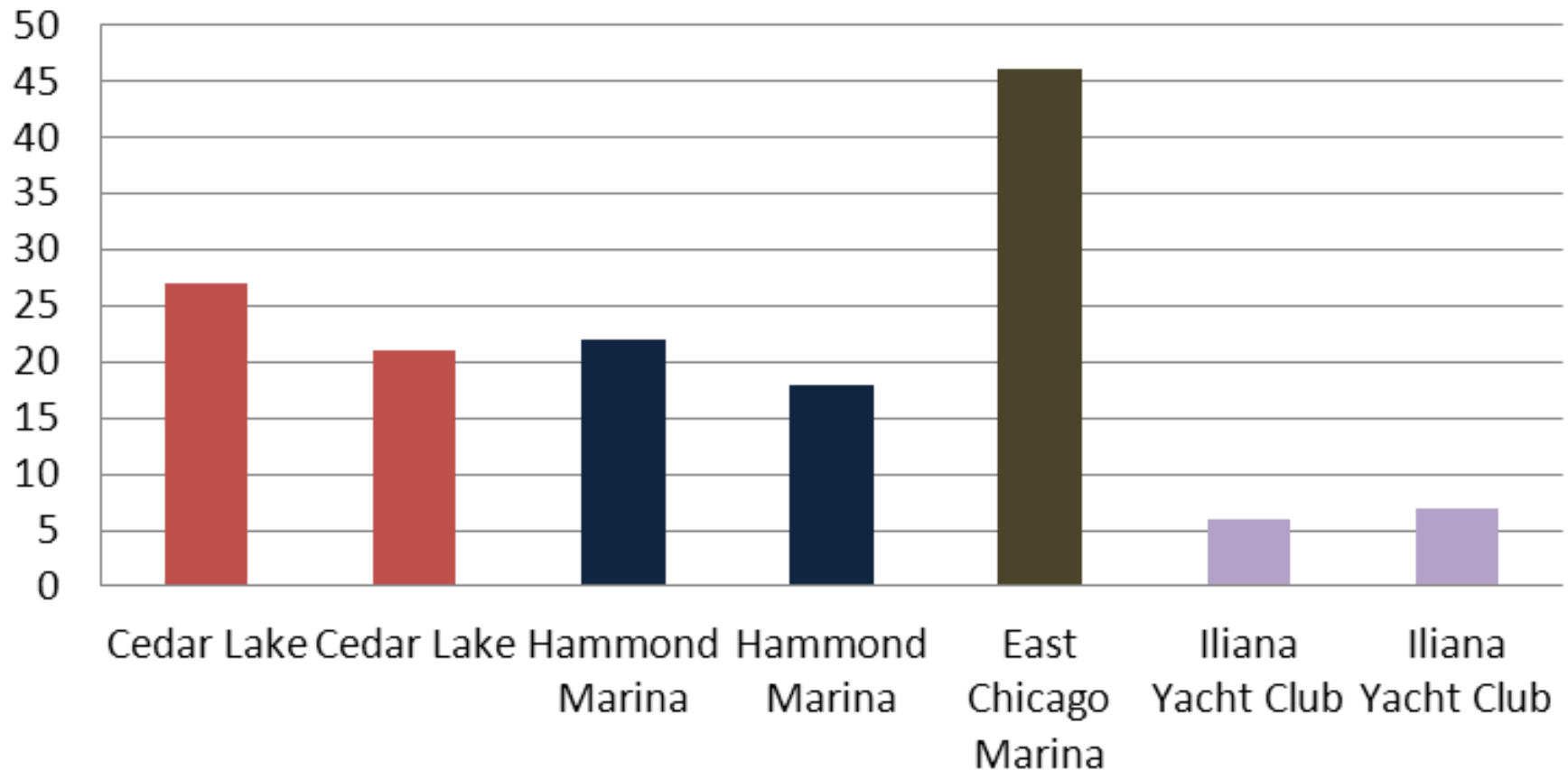
What We Found

- Wide range of responses from public
- Very wide range of awareness



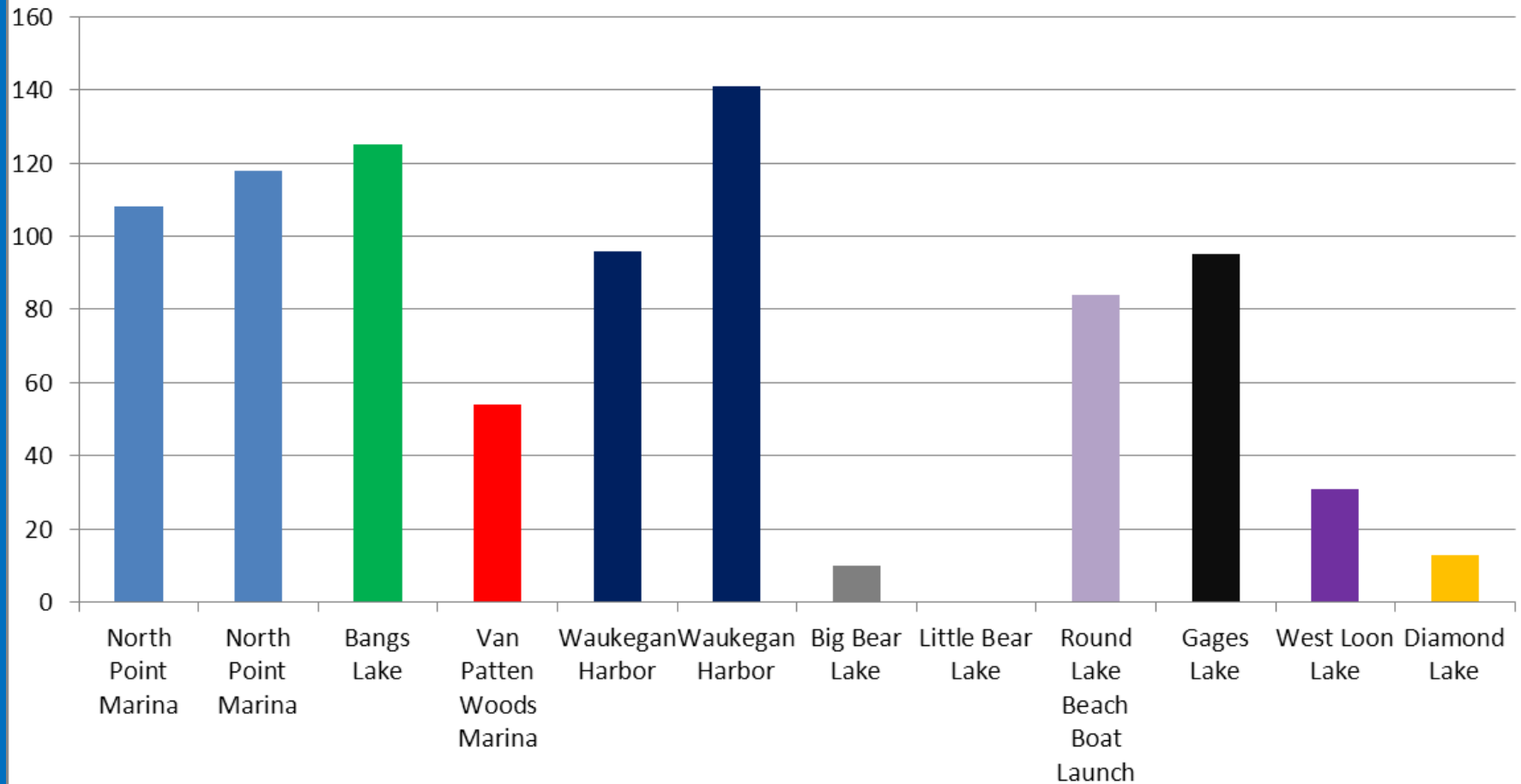
Our Impact in Indiana

Number of Exposures (Total=147)



Our Impact in Illinois

Number of Exposures (Total=875)



Lessons Learned

Permission from boat launch owner or marina manager is always a good idea

Many people want to do the right thing and would support wash stations

Some people already inspect and clean their boats



The Future

- Expanding program to Cook County, IL and Porter County, IN
- FURTHER EXPANSION IS DEPENDENT ON FUNDING AND A HOST AGENCY
- Off-season outreach and education to diverse organizations
- Showing the public how to do
- watercraft inspections
- An army of volunteers!!
- Surveys to determine impacts on behavior



Acknowledgments

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Assistant Coordinators

- Elsa Holden
- Valbona Kokoshi

Volunteer

Lynn Buchmeyer, VLMP (IL)

